

# MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



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THE MACDONALD LASSIE





## Making Good Use of Our Talents

Do you remember the parable of the talents? In it the man with one talent went and buried his talent in the ground. Then he underwent considerable suffering and punishment, because he had failed to make good use of his talent.

The wisdom of that parable is as evident today as it was two thousand years ago. Wherever we go we see people who have failed to make the most of their opportunities; and often we find them railing at their lack of opportunity, while others who had no more chance in the first place have been able to do wonders.

With many of us the trouble is that we can't see the trees for the wood. We have fine big plans, but often they're so big we can't see any way to tackle them just now; and the opportunity never seems to come around. Probably our big trouble is that we haven't thought our plans through properly — which involves breaking them down into workable units, including some place to start right now.

For the man who finds himself with a rundown farm, the prospects may not seem very bright. There may be an apparently impossible task of building up the soil and repairing the buildings, with little cash to do it. Viewed as a whole, the problem may look like this: "The fields are so badly run down that they will produce very little crop; the buildings need to have a lot spent on them to put them in shape. And I haven't any money to spare, so I can't do anything about it." That's the counsel of despair.

There's usually another way to consider this situation, something like this: "There's a lot to be done, and I

can't do much at a time, but I can certainly manage to do a little each year. After the first few years, the increased returns will help me to finish the job in less time."

The same with livestock. It costs just as much to produce poor cattle as good ones; and with the number of good cattle in Eastern Canada there's no excuse for any farmer to continue raising poor stock indefinitely. Nor is there any need for him to spend a lot of money to improve his herd. There are many dairy herds in this country that have been built up from one good calf club heifer. And there are many others that are being rapidly improved by breeding the cows to good bulls through artificial insemination — often at a considerable cash saving over the cost of keeping a bull.

For the people who really want to progress, there's always a way to get started — not next year or next month, but right now. It may be as simple as talking things over with an agronomer or with a successful neighbour, and getting his ideas on the situation. Not that we need to accept his suggestions *holus-bolus*; but they can at least give us something to think about — something we may be able to adapt to meet our precise conditions.

No improvement has ever been made by starting next year, or next spring, or at any other future time. To get anywhere, a start must be made at once. It may be only a plan of operation; but if it's well thought out, and followed up, it's a real start — the sort of start that will eventually lead to full use of our talents.

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# Bringing Science to the Farmer

**It isn't enough for the scientist to work for progress through his test tubes, says the president of the Agricultural Institute of Canada. He contends that each man engaged in agricultural research has a responsibility for seeing that his findings are put to use.**

*by F. J. Greaney*

**P**ROGRESS in agricultural science, slow and haphazard for centuries, has been rapid in the last 50 years. The advances of the past two decades have been remarkable. The disturbing and radically changed conditions brought about by the most devastating of all wars had the effect, particularly in countries like Canada, of stimulating scientific investigation in all its phases. Although the amazing scientific discoveries of this period have greatly enriched the industrial life of the country, it can safely be said that in no field of scientific effort has there been in recent years a greater or an economically more fruitful advance than in that which we designate collectively as "Agricultural".

During the war and immediate post-war years, science was the servant of the Canadian farmer. In recent years, scientific research has clearly proved itself to be one of the most promising instruments available for the vital task of bringing to full utilization the great potentialities of Canada's greatest industry — agriculture.

One basic need in contemporary life is more and better food for undernourished populations throughout the world. The raising of nutritional levels through an expanded agricultural development may be expected to step up the whole Canadian economy in the years to come. If this is to be done, however, each of the collaborating agricultural agencies in this country must be prepared to contribute its full part. There is little doubt that, with our great natural resources, and with the resources of modern science and technology at our command, we should not find it too difficult to improve both quantity and quality in the output of Canada's farms.

It must be remembered, however, that the critical ingredient for a successful program of this kind is a well-trained, experienced, able and devoted group of professional agriculturists. If this job is to be done we must continue to direct scientific effort towards the solution of Canada's major agricultural problems — the problems of soil conservation, drought and land reclamation. Our attack on insect infestations and plant diseases must be strengthened. Progress must be made in animal breeding and feeding, dairying, poultry raising, fruit and vegetable



**Science can't control the weather; but it can help farmers reduce the risk of loss due to unfavourable weather.**

growing, and in other aspects of agriculture. Our economic problems, including transportation and marketing, must receive greater consideration.

Attention to these and other matters must receive our fullest attention if Canada is to hold its proper place among the producing nations in the future markets of the world. In plain words, if Canada is to prosper she must develop an efficient and permanent agriculture. And in their attempt to achieve these desirable ends, the farmers of this country will demand, and should rightfully expect, a constantly improved technical service from its professionally trained agriculturists. To realize the extent of this challenge, to be conscious of our responsibility in successfully meeting it, will be a means of elevating the status of our profession in the eyes of the people of this country.

It is essential for agricultural scientists to prove to farmers, and to the public generally, the value of their discoveries in terms of dollars and cents. It is, for instance, not enough to show that a certain method of treatment will control a destructive plant disease, or to demonstrate that heavy applications of a certain fertilizer will add materially to the yield per acre of a given crop. Unless it be shown in each case that under prevailing conditions a net financial gain can be expected from such treatment, the reputation of the scientist for wise guidance is not likely to be improved by advocating it.

I have come to believe that the prejudice that is often found against agricultural science points to incomplete scientific knowledge and want of proper contact between the scientist in the laboratory and experimental field, on the one hand, and the farmer and his balance-sheet, on the other. In strengthening the public's appreciation of the



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economic value of agricultural science it would seem that the need is for more complete collaboration of scientist with the farmer. If agricultural science is to continue to carry conviction to the practising agriculturist, it is essential that its findings be presented to him not only in terms of dollars and cents but also by personal contact, authoritative explanation and, whenever possible, by clear demonstration.

An efficient Canadian agricultural scientist is not merely a scientific worker whose sole duty it is to closet himself

in a laboratory, emerging now and then to report his results to a scientific body. No, he has another important responsibility. By the very nature of his work he is obligated to co-operate to the fullest extent in keeping the public informed of the work he is doing. Furthermore, he has the individual responsibility of making sure that the findings of his research are accurately and rapidly interpreted to as wide a section of the public as they are likely to concern.

## Casting Light on Forum Problems

SOME of the 50 forum secretaries and delegates who attended the conference at Macdonald College had intended to stay for only the first day; but after sampling it they decided to stay on to the end. And one who had to return home over 100 miles the first night was back first thing in the morning. That's the sort of conference it was.

Some of those who had intended to go home early believed it would be just a humdrum business meeting, and came only because of a strong streak of loyalty to their organization. But they found they had little opportunity to sit and nap. Everyone had a chance to participate actively almost throughout the program — and being a keen bunch, they made the most of that chance.

It was their meeting, right from the start. Even the committees were appointed, not by the chairman, J. D. Lang, but by a draft committee elected by the group as a whole; and not a single person had to be coaxed to act, they were all so eager to do a job.

Then the National Secretary, Floyd Griesbach, led off a session on organization problems. But Mr. Griesbach did not present them with the answers on a platter. Instead, he broke the crowd up into five small groups and gave them three questions to discuss: How their forums raised their finances, whether they had difficulty keeping attendance steady at forum meetings, and what services they would like from the provincial office.

Methods of financing varied from yearly fees, to collections at meetings, card parties and moccasin dances. Few of the forums represented had trouble in keeping up good attendance during good weather; and it was remarked that there was less trouble with attendance when there were about equal numbers of men and women.

Services requested included everything from handicrafts to study material on matrimony. Here it was pointed out that almost all the information listed could readily be secured from the Information Centre at Macdonald College, simply by writing in.

Most of the first afternoon and evening was devoted to committee meetings. This was the first time that forum representatives had had much time to get together and discuss the objects and methods of operation of their

committees, and it proved a very interesting and enlightening business.

The day ended with a few folk-dances — or rather, the program ended. But many of the delegates went on for quite a while. This was the first time many of them had ever met; and they were quartered four to a room. Thus one room might have a person from Pontiac, one from Huntingdon, one from Argenteuil and one from Sherbrooke, all strangers to each other before they arrived at Macdonald for the meeting. So, tired as they were at the end of the program, they had a lot of things they still wanted to talk over; and some got little sleep that night.

However, in the morning, they were all ready to take a keen part in the discussion on planning fall rallies, which was led by Floyd Griesbach. This was another real discussion, with practically everyone telling what his district had done, or introducing new ideas. In the end, it was pretty well decided that fall rallies should be planned by a meeting of representatives of all the forums in the district, and that this meeting should be held at least eight weeks before the probable date of the rally, in order to get a priority on the date, and have plenty of time to arrange for speakers, films and publicity.

Bringing in groups other than forums to help with the planning and arrangement was strongly recommended by



A little folk dancing closed a busy day.



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some of the delegates. They pointed out that this was a very good way to get new people interested in the forum movement; and to give them an idea of what it was all about. A review of the past year's activities and plans for the coming year should have a place early on the program, to let everyone know what all the local forums and the district association are doing.

Concerning the best time to hold the rally, it was pointed out that it should not be so early that the interest it creates has time to die out; and that it should be early enough to stimulate old forums to take a flying start, and new groups to organize for the beginning of the season. It was generally agreed that three or four weeks before the first broadcast would be a good time.

The next subject discussed was the problems of farm forum secretaries, under the leadership of Jack Cram. The problem reported by most of the delegates was that the local secretary had trouble finding the answers to the report questions in the discussion. The group presented several possible reasons for the problem, including poor questions and lack of interest in the subject. But most agreed that such a situation was usually the result of poor chairmanship. Either the chairman was doing all the talking himself, was not keeping discussion on the topic or was letting someone else monopolize the time.

It was pointed out that where the chairman fails to direct the discussion properly other members should help to bring it around to the subject, so that the group as a whole can discuss the report question.

Something else that detracted from good discussion was lack of information. Here it was pointed out that, even if members of the group had little prior information on the subject, the guide and the broadcast would give them a basis for intelligently considering the question.

The next question involved difficulty in collecting district and local fees. Nobody reported any difficulty in collecting fees for the local forum, but several had trouble in getting the district quota. After considerable discussion the group pretty well agreed that the cause of the difficulty was usually lack of information on why the money was needed and how it was spent. It was pointed out that secretaries who understood what was involved in the budget, so that they could explain the services financed by the money, would have less trouble in collecting it. So it was necessary for secretaries to study the budget thoroughly and be able to answer all the questions they might be asked about it.

Several delegates said that members of their forums were not interested in much of the material sent out by the provincial office. They agreed that the Greenleaf was well received, but that material to be read at a meeting should not involve more than two pages. However, they did not want the provincial secretary to stop sending the Federation of Agriculture bulletins and other such material. Each piece could be given to someone who was

particularly interested in the subject, with the request that he give a brief presentation of the highlights at the next forum meeting.

A few secretaries reported poor support for action projects. Discussion showed that some of these projects were undertaken with a bare majority in favour, and a strongly opposed minority which was able to influence the community against the project. Others had been started with too little thought, study or preparation. Still others had been decided on simply because one or two people had railroaded them through, and the others hadn't liked to oppose them. None of these ever had much chance of success.

But there was another category — projects which people wanted, but did not actively support. Here it was suggested that they might not know just what was needed or how they could help, and better organization and publicity might put the project in a much stronger position.

Some groups reported that there was little liaison between them and their county associations. Suggested reasons were inactive leadership or membership in the county group, or lack of interest on the part of the group's own representative on the county committee.

A few others said that their forum activities were not getting all the publicity they deserved. It was pointed out that they would not get publicity unless they did something about it; that involved making someone responsible for doing publicity, letting him know about all the forum's plans and activities, well in advance, and helping him to do a job. Publicity might be turned out through press and radio news releases, circulars and word of mouth, and many groups were doing a good job on it.

Vice-President Neil Creller of Frelighsburg gave a report on the annual meeting of the National Farm Radio Forum held in Brandon, which was followed by reports of committees, which were reorganized this year on a more rational basis. They included Co-operative Activities, including Gordon Shufelt, Miller Gibson, Fred Green, Donald Hastings and Grant Elliott; Women's Activities with Mrs. G. Telford, Mrs. Florence Mattics, Mrs. E. S. Bradley, Mrs. Fred Green and Mrs. Geo. Boyce; Finance, with C. P. Macdonald, Neil Creller, Mrs. G. Telford, Carl Corey and Gordon Shufelt; Livestock Producers, with E. S. Bradley, P. D. McArthur, Clifford Oswald, Carl Corey and Heber Boyd; and Car Insurance, with Neil Creller, Wallace Rennie, Carl Vaughan, Noel Baillon and Hollis Burns.

W. G. MacDougall and Mrs. Donald McElrea were appointed to the Eastern Townships Committee on Adult Education, which had asked farm forum to name a couple of representatives; and Mr. Lobb was named to the Travelling Libraries Committee.



# National Forum Has Lively Session

Lively discussion and constructive criticism highlighted the Annual Meeting of National Farm Radio Forum held recently at Brandon, Manitoba.

"Some broadcasts fail to provoke discussion and Farm Forum is suffering as a result," stated Gerald Habing, President of the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation, spearheading a protest from the Manitoba membership directed at the C.B.C.

"Forum members across Canada choose the topics and it is up to them to choose subjects that lend themselves to good group discussion," was the reply of A. B. Kemp, Supervisor of the C.B.C. Farm Broadcast Department. Mr. Kemp continued outlining technical difficulties involved and concluded by stating: "Producers of forum broadcasts wish all topics were controversial as we know we can do a job then. But when they are not we can't guarantee good discussion in the groups."

Discussion continued on this theme during consideration of the farm forum programme for 1950-51. The programme will include series, on Marketing, Health and Social Security, Education, Farm Management and Conservation, and International Problems. The delegates passed a resolution demanding that each topic be studied thoroughly by the C.B.C. producer and the editor of the Guide in order to bring out angles which will make all topics controversial.

Floyd Griesbach, National Secretary, informed the conference that a deficit of \$1,500 was foreseen for the National Office. A. B. Kemp, C.B.C. member on The National Board pointed out that the Canadian Federation of Agriculture will contribute \$6,000, the Canadian Association of Adult Education \$4,000 to the National Budget next year. The C.B.C. does not contribute money directly to Farm Radio Forum but broadcasting costs \$12,000 yearly. Miss Ruth MacKenzie, editor of the Guide, informed the delegates that sale of Farm Forum Guide at present rates would bring in \$8,000 but expenses entailed leave no surplus for other uses by the National Office. Les Stutt, Western representative of the C.A.A.E. on the National Board stated that except for paying cost of Guide, forum members were contributing nothing directly towards supporting the National Office.

After careful consideration of several suggestions, the delegates decided that a \$5 per thousand increase in the cost of the Guide would be a practical solution to the budget problem. In the case of Quebec Farm Forums this would mean a \$100 contribution from the Provincial Office when buying price of the Guide is increased from 2½¢ to 3¢ per copy. In terms of membership an average of approximately 6½¢ per family per year wipes out the expected deficit.

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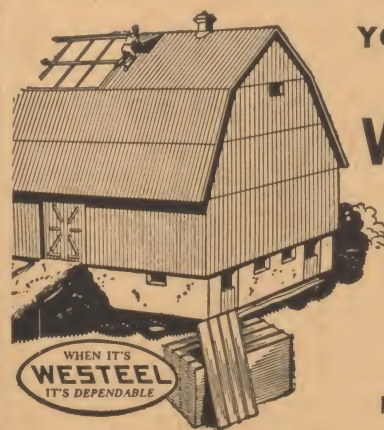
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# Good Enough for Father?

by John Sneddo



The ox, the horse and the tractor represent three stages of progress in Elgar Jayce's farming.

Many a father has been unjustly maligned by a son who didn't stop to think how eagerly his father had accepted progress in his day. Modern farmers have to step out to keep up with their parents and grandparents.



FARMERS are often quoted as saying: "Well, it was good enough for my father, and it's good enough for me." I've actually heard some men make this remark; but not very many during the last few years. Those who still say it may be divided into two classes; the ones who are merely trying to get rid of pestiferous salesmen, and the ones who mine their land and their families. No thinking farmer could possibly make such a remark seriously — even if it weren't a slur on his father. And usually it would be a completely unjustified slur.

Our fathers were not at all content to farm as their fathers had before them. The only reason they didn't follow some of our modern methods is that these were unknown in their day. But many of them accepted each advance in farming as soon as its benefits were proven.

Take Elgar Jayce, an average farmer born in the 1860's. He started out with oxen, an ox-power thresher, a dug well with a rope and bucket, lard hogs and just cattle. But, even if he was satisfied at first with this equipment, that satisfaction disappeared as soon as he saw promising new developments. First he got a team of horses, then hired a steam outfit to do his threshing, installed a windmill pump, used bacon boars and got some dairy cattle. And at a later stage he got a tractor, put a gasoline motor on the pump on his new drilled well, went over to straight bacon hogs and started to test his dairy herd.

Nothing but the best that was within his reach was good enough for Elgar Jayce. As new developments appeared he watched them closely, and when he was convinced that they really had something to offer, it was only a question of his being able to finance them. And he was

not at all unique; the stages of his farming were much the same as those of many of his contemporaries.

These men recognized that in a changing world it was necessary to change with the times, to adapt themselves to new situations. The same holds true today — not only in farming, but in all our thinking. Industrialization, fast transport and other modern developments have created a world where former truths no longer hold. And if we insist on farming and thinking in the terms of a generation ago we just don't belong in a world that has changed so much since then.

The changes in farming have kept right on since Elgar Jayce died in 1930. Combines have gone a long way toward replacing binders and stationary grain threshers. Gasoline motors have been superseded by electric motors, as electrification has advanced. Advanced Registry offers a means of further improving our pigs; and the herd bull on many farms has either been entirely discarded or has been taken over by an artificial insemination centre because he was particularly good.

Highly selective insecticides have hit the market, one after another. Weeds are being battled by new methods of husbandry, new types of machines, new chemicals and even hormones.

The cattle which, in Elgar Jayce's day, had to drink from an outside trough, now have individual drinking cups in their stalls. Pigs have Danish type pens where they can be comfortable and clean, instead of being left to wallow on the assumption that they were naturally filthy creatures. Poultry no longer have just pens, but highly specialized buildings to fit their special needs; and poultrymen no longer look for broody hens, except to



discard them. They want their hens to keep on laying, and they buy bred-to-lay chicks from hatcheries.

The changes in farming have gone so far that not even the weather holds quite the terror it once did. Tile drainage helps get over-wet fields ready to work in the spring. Quick-maturing varieties of grain make it easier to beat early frosts. Strong-strawed varieties stand up better under wind and rain. Seeding and harvesting continue after dark, to make good use of favourable weather. And rain doesn't interfere with ensiling grass as it did with haying.

Drought itself is being fought in numerous ways. There are surface, subsoil and sprinkler irrigation. There are reforestation to build up underground stores of moisture, windbreaks to catch snow, contour cultivation to coax the water to soak in and trash cover to cut down evaporation.

What's more, we've learned that good feed is not just anything that animals will eat readily. We know that different kinds of feed have different jobs to do in maintaining animal life and production, and that a shortage of any one kind will keep the animals from making full use of any of the others, and sometimes cause disease.

Taking it still further, we know that different soils and climates produce crops of different chemical content; and that it is the chemical content of crops which largely determines their feeding value. So the animals that eat grain or grass from a certain field may suffer from deficiency diseases. But we also know that soil analysis will show up major deficiencies, making it possible to correct them. And we know that good crop rotations are necessary to keep the soil in top condition.

There have been a lot of changes in marketing too. Mrs. Jayce used to skim the milk and make butter. When there were market animals to sell the local drover got them. When Mrs. Jayce's hens layed a few extra eggs she might take them and her butter to the store, and get paid in kind. Of course, if she had a stall on the farmers' market she might sell them there, along with fruits and vegetables and cottage cheese and suckling pigs and pups.

Now many farmers with good herds sell their milk under contract for the fluid trade. Co-ops supply reliable marketing channels for most types of farm produce, and also process many of them and sell them at prices fixed by collective bargaining. No longer is it a matter of one buyer playing several lone farmers against each other; now the farmers get together and make the buyers bid competitively.

The home, too, has undergone very great changes. Electrification has brought ample light and made it easier to install running water and plumbing and refrigeration. It has cut down waste and speeded up jobs like milking and water pumping. So the farm family has more chance to enjoy its home, and the living room blinds have gone up.

Into that home has come the world's news, day by day, through radio and newspaper. So the farmer is no longer open-mouthed at hearing what's happened in the last month; he's able to discuss the headlines as well as other people.

And he has learned that, just as an axe can't be sharpened by cutting wood, he can't get the most out of his land by just farming. He keeps his mind keen by reading and discussing what he reads with his family and his neighbours. No longer is he content to learn by trial and error; he's eager to benefit from other people's experience.

That leads him out into the world, to take an active part in community activities. He's found that life can be agreeable only when the family feels fairly contented, and that everyone needs a reasonable amount of social activity and recreation. And he knows that nothing is more stimulating than what people do for themselves.

Of course, not every farmer in Canada fits into this picture; but there are a great many who do, and many more who fit into most of it. As time goes on, more and more will fit it fully, and then pass on to still further progress. And the others, whether we like it or not, will gradually be forced out of farming because they won't be able to stand the competition of their more progressive neighbours.

## "JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"What a farmer! Strips his wood lot and now he can't even get under a tree when it rains."



# A Lot of Cash Crops

Geared to command premiums in several markets, this Argenteuil County farm misses very few bets. The cash crops include R.O.P.-bred Ayrshires and White Leghorns, seed oats and barley, hay, fluid milk, eggs, maple syrup, hogs, honey and apples. And Clifford Oswald finds it worth while to take an active part in farm groups.

by J. S. Cram

NOT many Quebec farmers are in the same position as Clifford Oswald of St. Scholastique. This summer Mr. Oswald put up a big new barn — 120 x 36 — so he could enlarge his herd to use all his hay.

His acreage is not very great — 180 acres with 130 in rotation and most of the balance in sugar bush and orchard. But on this acreage he pastures 32 herd of pure-bred Ayrshires and provides hay and grain for them, 21 head of pigs, 300 laying hens, 550 pullets and cockerels and two horses. What's more, he's able to sell some seed grain each year.

Records like that don't happen by chance; but little is left to chance around the Oswald farm. All the workable land is rotated, long-term pasture being included in the rotation when it begins to run down. The regular rotation is a four-year one including a hoe crop, grain seeded down, and two years of hay. When long-term pasture is being renewed the rotation is extended to a five-year one, by tacking on a year of pasture.

For grain, Mr. Oswald grows Urban oats and Velvet



The Oswalds are justly proud of their garden.

barley, 12 to 15 acres of each, with the rest of the grain land in mixed grain. The hoed crop consists of 606 hybrid corn, which is used for silage. His hay mixture included red clover, alsike, timothy and alfalfa — alfalfa will do well on any field in the farm. He gets one-cut yields of from 1½ to 2 tons per acre, and pastures the aftermath.

He applies about 2 tons of lime per acre every third year on the uplands, but his low fields don't need it. All the crop land gets a regular treatment of 250 to 300 pounds of 2-12-6, as well as its share of manure. Varying from heavy clay loam on the flats to lightly sandy loam up above, it is practically all well drained, with 12 acres tiled. Before tiling the 12 acres were very cold and late, but now it's earlier than the rest.

No land is allowed to stand idle. When patches of clover winter-kill, Mr. Oswald sows oats on them at the time when he's putting in the rest of his oats; and harvested with the hay, these patches boost the feed supply.



Part of the R.O.P. milking herd on pasture.



Some of the 200 R.O.P. Leghorn cockerels.



At present he has 32 head of purebred Ayrshires, with 12 to 15 in milk the year around. They are all on R.O.P., and last year they gave records of from 8,000 to 13,000 pounds testing over 4 percent; this included some two-year olds. Practically all of these cattle are of Mr. Oswald's own breeding, as for years he has bought very few cows.

But he does buy good bulls. The first time I met him was at Lachute fair about seven years ago, when his bull was grand champion against strong competition. His present herd sire is Cliff Hill Sir Henry, from a dam with five records over 12,000 pounds and a test of over 4 percent.

As a result of this constructive breeding policy he has a ready market for all his surplus breeding stock, for export to the United States. His milk goes to the Montreal Milk Producers' Association as fluid milk.

He has a flock of 300 White Leghorn hens, which are being tested on R.O.P. through the progeny test and have averaged over 200 eggs annually. Each year he sells from 8,000 to 12,000 chicks hatched in his own hatchery, which has a capacity of 3,500 eggs at one setting. When I visited his farm in the summer he had 550 growing birds, including 200 R.O.P. cockerels.

Another major venture is the tapping of 2,400 maples every spring, producing about 300 gallons of syrup, which is sold to private customers. His four hives of bees help to fertilize the orchard, and their honey is sold locally, as are the apples from the forty trees.

Apart from the hatching season, eggs are sold to a Montreal firm on contract, as is poultry meat. The pigs are sold to a commercial plant in Montreal. Surplus hay finds a ready market among neighbours.

But Mr. Oswald figures that he might as well feed this hay to his own stock, so he plans to expand his herd to 45 or 50 head. Out of this plan arose the need for a new barn to replace one that his grandfather built in 1857. The stable part of the barn is 96 x 36, with the mow extending 23 feet at one end, the full height. This barn has about everything — all Beatty equipment, individual drinking cups, forced ventilation and a mechanical gutter cleaner which will dump the manure directly into a spreader in a pit at the lower end of the barn.

Naturally, a place like this takes a lot of keeping up — particularly to maintain the fields as weed-free as they are. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Oswald, the family includes Ross, who is 19, Joan who is 17, and John, 15. They have one additional full-time man, and hire another one or two at rush seasons.

Mrs. Oswald's kitchen garden is worthy of the real pride she takes in it, with a steady succession of green stuff from the start to the end of the season, and rows of flowers included to add colour. The strawberries and raspberries supply plenty of fruit for eating fresh and canning.

Clifford Oswald was born a couple of farms down the road, but moved to this one when he was just 18. It was



The new barn replaces one built in 1857.

not new to the Oswald family, having been in the family since 1830, when it was settled by Col. John Oswald, Clifford's great-grandfather. The present house was built in 1880, but Clifford has had it modernized with electric light, plumbing and automatic water supply.

Even with his heavy year-round farming program, Mr. Oswald finds time for farm organizations. He is a member of the Montreal Milk Producers' Association, vice-president of the St. Augustin Agricultural Association — a co-operative for buying farm supplies — a director of the Quebec Poultry Industries Council, and president of the North of Montreal Ayrshire Breeders' Club.

In addition, last year he was chairman of the East Settlement Farm Forum, and has been active in promoting a mutual fire insurance association in the county. He was also chairman of the Argenteuil Farm Forum Council and a director of the Quebec Farm Forum Association.

A fine example of a progressive farmer, Mr. Oswald has spread his activities over a lot of cash crops, has worked to produce the best possible products, has made a good home for his family and has taken an active part in farm organizations and community activities. And he should still have a good many years of progress ahead of him.

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec  
Department of Agriculture*

### Quebec Apple Growers Push Their Product

A pre-view of this summer's advertising campaign was a feature of the Pomological Society's annual summer meeting, held in pouring rain at various points in the Mississquoi district on August 2nd. In spite of the wretched weather, which cut short the spraying demonstrations and forced cancellation of a trip through the government's experimental spray plots, there was a good attendance, one estimate being 175 cars with a probable average of three people in each car.

The day's programme began at Farnham. While the officers of the Society held a directors' meeting, the visitors were taken on a tour of the new cold storage plant and its operations were explained by Marc Hudon and M. Lagacé, the manager of this Farnham Apple Growers' Co-operative. Every section of this modern packing and storage plant were examined, starting with the compressor room in the basement which contains the refrigerating equipment, through the vast but still empty storage rooms, and finishing on the upper floor where the apples are graded and packed. It was explained that last year, the first season of operation, only apples were placed in the storage, and during the rest of the year the time was taken to make certain changes that had been found by the first year's experience to be necessary. It is hoped that eventually, when the apple crop has moved out, the plant may be rented for commercial storage of other crops.

Following lunch, which everyone was expected to bring for himself, the visitors dodged the rain to get into their cars and begin a tour of the orchards of the district. There wasn't any attempt made to stop and visit individual orchards; in fact, those that knew the country short-circuited the tour and went directly to the orchard of Mr. Hudon, where a spraying demonstration had been arranged for. About half the party, however, made the whole circuit, and arrived at the Hudon farm just as the first part of the crowd was ready to move. The resulting traffic jam was really something to see, but things got straightened out eventually and the whole party, cold and wet, arrived at Pinnacle Lodge on Selby Lake, where, according to the printed programme, the next item was swimming and boating on the lake. By common consent this part of the day's activities was completely neglected. A business meeting, a buffet supper, and a dance completed the activities.

#### Forecast of Markets

President Floyd Stevenson presided over the business meeting of the day. Passing lightly over the scab situation, with which all the growers are only too familiar this year, he went on to remind members of the society that, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the winter meeting in 1949, the apple grading act has been amended, so that from now on all apples sold in Canada, no matter where they were grown, will have been graded on the same basis; commercial categories will be Extra Fancy, Fancy, "C" grade instead of the designations to which we have been accustomed for many years. The Fruit Section of the Quebec Department of Agriculture is preparing a bulletin, illustrated in colour, which will illustrate the requirements of each grade, which should be a big help in the grading work.

Cold storage capacity has increased with the building of a 50,000 bushel plant at Chateauguay, and smaller individual plants in Rouville County. He estimated that at least one third of the McIntosh crop will be cold stored immediately after picking — something of a record, and a definite step toward stabilizing the apple market at and just after harvest time.

Estimates for the apple crop, both in Canada and the United States, are down from last year's figures. Our friends in the States are figuring on about 12 million bushels less than last year, and the peach crop will be some 30% less. In British Columbia, a drop of at least



The workings of the Farnham cold storage plant are explained by Marc Hudon. Explanations in the French language were given by the manager, Mr. Legacé.



20%, which represents a total crop this year of 6½ million bushels, is forecast. Pears and plums will be 50% less and cherries and apricots 25% less.

Ontario expects an apple crop of 2,400,000 bushels, a million less than last year. The only Ontario fruit which is expected to be in better supply is grapes, where an increase of five thousand tons is looked for. Nova Scotia will probably harvest about the same crop as last year.

Here in Quebec, there is a possibility that the total apple crop may reach 1,790,000 bushels, which would be 715,000 bushels less than last summer. The Society executive is forecasting a crop of 550,000 bushels of early and early Fall apples, 900,000 bushels of MacIntosh, 225,000 of Fameuse, and 115,000 of all other varieties. They expect a 50% increase in the total crop of Summer varieties such as Duchess, Melba and Yellow; the decrease will be in the later varieties. Scab and insect damage is expected to make at least 10% of the crop useless for sale as fresh fruit.

### Publicity

M. Normandin, to whom has been entrusted the responsibility of carrying on the radio campaign for which the Society has budgeted \$6,000, gave an outline of the methods that will be used. Time has been secured on four Montreal stations; CKAC, CKVL, CFCF and CJAD for short, spot announcements which will dramatize the value, quality, flavour, etc., of Quebec apples, all phrased in such a way that, Mr. Normandin confidently expects, will make the housewife feel that she simply must go out and buy some Quebec apples right away. Stations in Rimouski, Quebec and Sherbrooke will also be used. In addition, there are to be a series of talks and interviews by members of the Society, and Mr. Normandin has been able to secure a certain amount of free time from the stations for these. Seventy percent of the budget will be spent in the Montreal area.

## Agricultural Merit Judging Completed

Judging of farms entered in the 1950 Agricultural Merit Competition has been going on steadily, with the winner to be named at the usual ceremonies held at Quebec Fair early next month. This year the competition is in the Montreal area, and some 95 farms have been entered, with 15 farmers competing against one another for the gold medal.

This is the 60th anniversary of the founding of this unique competition, which was first organized by Premier Honore Mercier in 1890, and the celebrations at the Fair will be on a larger scale than usual to commemorate the anniversary.

Mr. Normandin has had a lot of experience in this type of work, and has already done promotion work for apple sales at the request of other provinces. If his enthusiasm and optimism are justified, the Society's money will have been well spent. The opening gun of the campaign will be fired on August 28th.

Mr. Stevenson touched on the subject of money, too. He pointed out that a considerable number of those who voted enthusiastically in favour of the advertising campaign haven't yet backed their vote with cash; and although a lot of memberships were paid up at this summer meeting, there are still some outstanding. A Society like this one can't function without the full support of every member; and more than that, every member should make it his business to interest a friend, who is not a member, to join the Society, said Mr. Stevenson.



The Bean mist sprayer in action in the pouring rain. The advantage of this type of sprayer lies in its small water requirement. Spray material is put on in concentrated form, 8 parts of water instead of the usual 40, resulting in faster operation and less man power. The machine can also apply dust.

The panel of judges for this year has included Louis Tremblay, last year's gold medallist; Dr. St. Pierre, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere; and J. A. Fowley, farmer. Once again, for the third consecutive year, the secretary, and the man who makes up the reports, was Philippe Lambert, of the Department's extension service.

## New Agronomic Division

Nicolet County has been divided into two sections with an agronome in charge of each. For Nicolet East, the agronome's office will be at Gentilly, in charge of Louis Baribeau. Nicolet West will be in charge of Armand Joubert, with headquarters at Nicolet. Mr. Joubert was formerly stationed at St. Leonard d'Aston.



## Making Bulls Breed Better

Reproductive problems in bulls are less common than in cows, according to F. N. Andrews and L. M. Hutchings of Purdue University. However, they don't credit this to a greater resistance on the part of the bulls, but merely to the fact that there are fewer bulls than cows. Lowered fertility is usually quickly recognized in the male because of the failure of all or most of the cows to become pregnant.

The purchase of a sire of breeding age requires great care. He should be free from brucellosis, trichomoniasis and transmissible vaginitis and should be from a herd where these disease have not been present. Both tests should be in the scrotum. Also, it should be established that no cryptorchidism has occurred in his brothers or his offspring.

Unfortunately for many purchasers, many bulls which are "legally fertile" are not reliable breeders, requiring three or four services to settle a cow. Whenever a bull of serviceable age is bought his actual breeding efficiency should be known.

The useful reproductive life of many bulls is shortened by lack of care. Animals which are kept in cramped, dark stalls or stanchions, which never have access to exercise lots and pasture, which are fed the hay which the cows leave in the manger cannot be expected to breed satisfactorily. Injuries to the testes or penis and infections of the genital organs may affect breeding ability.

Often the general condition of a bull may affect his fertility. Animals which do not have access to pasture but

are fed a lot of grain may get fat and sluggish. Such animals are often slow and unsure breeders. Changes in management will usually help in such cases.

In some animals lack of exercise and confinement in poor quarters may cause disorders of the feet and legs. Overgrown hoofs, foot rot and inflammation of the joints may prevent a bull from giving normal service even though his testes are functioning. So one of the best ways of maintaining fertility is to feed the bull well and keep him in good general condition.

When no particular cause can be found for the failure of a bull to settle cows, and when a microscopic examination of the semen shows that the sperm are of poor quality there does not seem to be much that can be done, apart from improving the general management. Numerous drugs have been tried, but generally are not very effective.

Some bulls produce good sperm but have little sex desire and are called slow breeders. Other bulls may have excellent sex drive but fail to settle cows because of poor sperm quality. Sex drive may be stimulated by the use of the male hormone, testosterone. However, this hormone does not improve the sperm.

In recent years many fat, sluggish bulls have been improved by feeding thyroprotein, a substance which contains the thyroid hormone. It is believed that this treatment is beneficial if the animal has an abnormal thyroid gland. However, if the bull's thyroid is normal it is unlikely that thyroprotein will help.

## Looking Ahead With Farm Wiring

Farmers who are planning to install electricity have a chance to profit from the wiring experience of their neighbours and have their farms wired properly in the beginning. Unless wiring is planned for present and future uses of electricity it may be necessary in a year or two to have an electrician install larger wires and more circuits and outlets. Then the total cost will be much more than if adequate wiring had been installed in the first place.

When you have a question about any electrical problem it is better to ask about it as soon as possible. The power supplier can give help on these problems. Hire a dependable electrician, preferably a man in your own community, who has a reputation for good work. The power supplier will know who installs approved wiring. Be certain that the power supplier inspects the wiring before turning on the electricity. Poor wiring has caused fires and injury, so an inspection is for your own protection.

Use a multi-breaker type of entrance switch. The multi-breaker costs slightly more than a fuse box but it is better, for no fuses have to be bought and replaced. When the wiring is overloaded, the breaker will trip off. It can be reset over and over again.

Farms that have fuse boxes should not use fuses larger than 15 amps for lighting and wall outlets in the home, except outlets in the kitchen and dining room, which may use 20 amp fuses. Ranges, water pumps and other special equipment will need large wires and may use larger fuses.

When a fuse blows, correct the trouble and replace the fuse with another of the same size. Never, under any circumstances, place a penny behind a blown fuse. If a penny is used instead of a fuse and the wiring is overloaded or a short circuit occurs, the wires will become hot and may cause a fire.

Use weatherproof wire for outside wiring. The distance from the farm building to the meter and the electrical load in the building will determine the size of weatherproof wire needed.

Plan your wiring for present and future uses of electricity. The house wiring should be designed for a three-wire service. This means three wires from the transformer to the meter. If an electric range or water heater is ever installed a three-wire service will be necessary, and small appliances will operate better because there is less voltage drop.



## Quebec Cheese Boosted In U.S.

Roland Camirand, general inspector for dairy products in this province, was asked last month by the Minister of Agriculture to attend the Lions Clubs' International Convention at Chicago, to tell the representatives something of the quality of Quebec cheese. This was a unique opportunity for a little advertising of our dairy products, for there were some 50,000 delegates attending this convention, representing practically every country on the globe.

The province arranged a special exhibit at the convention and this represents the first effort on our part to seriously publicize Quebec cheese on the American market. Every visitor to the Quebec booth was given a sample of cheese, attractively wrapped in a typically Quebec package in the blue and white provincial colours. Besides this, personal contacts were made with the official delegates of a number of countries with the hope that sales of our cheese might be arranged.

At the same time, Mr. Camirand spent some time examining manufacturing and market conditions for dairy products in Wisconsin, to see if he could pick up some ideas that might profitably be used here.

## Fighting T.B. in Gaspé

Bovine tuberculosis is being combatted this summer in Bonaventure and Gaspé counties by teams of veterinarians in the employ of the Department of Agriculture. Cattle in the area are being tested, and the aim of the campaign is to rid the area completely of this disease. As a result, it is hoped that there will come into being, in this part of Quebec, a zone including the Magdelene Islands, and all the counties of the Gaspé peninsula as far as Rimouski, completely free of T.B.

Similar work is going on in Abitibi and Temiscamingue and these two counties will soon be under permanent inspection and, it is expected, free of T.B. among the herds. Farmers in the St. Maurice region are also asking for this service, and the Department authorities are going to get at it as soon as possible.

Dr. J. M. Veilleux, chief of the Health of Animals Branch of Quebec, declares that Quebec is in the happy position of having practically no bovine tuberculosis among dairy herds, thanks in large measure to the careful watch maintained by his department.

## Townships Need Lime

Some 80 percent of tillable land in the Eastern Townships is acid and requires liming for maximum crop production. A large part of this area at one time contained sufficient calcium for the growth of most crops but, unfortunately, this calcium supply has greatly diminished as a result of leaching losses through rainfall and crop removal of bases. With a continuation of this process acid soils will occur sooner or later.

If in doubt about the lime requirement for any particular soil on your own farm, you can experiment by either liming a small area in the field or by taking a sample of the soil to your local agronomist or your nearest Experimental Farm to have it tested. The test is simple and free of charge. Several samples should be taken from the surface soil as well as one or two samples from the subsoil for each soil type.

In the Eastern Townships there are many districts where the use of lime would be highly remunerative. An experiment conducted at the Dominion Experimental Station, Lennoxville, Que., over a period of 18 years, says J. H. Finn, showed that the value of the increased crops due to lime was approximately twelve dollars for each ton of ground limestone applied. This takes into account only the increase in yield but does not allow for the improvement in the quality of the crops which in itself would pay for the lime.

## First Aid Kit for Farm

Every farm should be prepared for emergency treatment in case of accidents. This means a first aid kit is an essential part of farm equipment. Prompt and correct treatment for injuries can often save a life or prevent serious infection.

For the contents of the box, include rolls of adhesive tape of various widths, sterile gauze pads, an assortment of band-aids, swabs and sticks, sterile white cloth or bandages, tourniquets and burn ointment. Other things to include are scissors, boric acid, tincture of benzoin, an antiseptic, such as tincture of methiolate and aromatic spirits of ammonia.

Farm safety specialists suggest locating the first aid kits in the kitchen and the farm shop. Small kits also may be carried on the farm tractor and in the car.

## Local Stations Fight Pests

Carrying on unceasing war against insects and diseases in farm crops, the Quebec Department of Agriculture maintains a chain of stations throughout the province where the pests particularly persistent in local crops are studied under local conditions. In these stations new insecticides and fungicides are checked by actually using them on crops planted around the stations, to see how they work on the spot. An insecticide which is effective in the United States, for example, may not be nearly as efficient when used under Quebec conditions of temperature and humidity.

To these stations come farmers from the surrounding district for help with their problems and they always find the staff willing and eager to be of assistance.



## Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

Some of you may remember the difficulty we had last winter with pigs. All of them got safely to market thanks to sulphanilamide and soda. But we did not disinfect the pens before putting in a new lot. Now we have a hangover from it in another batch. We lost one before realizing what it was. There have been other pigs in the pens in between. They may have had a touch of the trouble at first but it did not seem to amount to much. At first we thought the trouble with these might be worms and lost a week of valuable time on the wrong treatment which might have saved the pig. At least it did one last winter which looked just as bad off.

As for our experiment in taking the field which was seeded down last year and pastured out of pasture for hay, it was very successful. It was very heavy hay, clover and timothy mixed, and the heaviest we had this year unless it was the piece of Dollard clover. The latter was all clover so had more clover but I doubt if the total crop was quite as large. The Dollard went into the silo but the other made hay after the silo was full. The kind of weather we had been having it looked impossible to make good hay of such heavy stuff. However it turned better and we got four good days in a row. Half of it went in on the fourth day. The rest of it is still a gamble but another good day to-morrow would see most of it under cover in fine shape.

The hay crop which looked so disappointing even in the latter part of June took a decided turn for the better in our section. About the time people should have been haying, it began to shower and the hay sure grew. Some who tried to hay then got some very poor quality hay. Those who waited are getting a good crop of hay cut later than it should be but still not so mature as might be expected because of the cool damp weather. We were filling silo and found the weather ideal for everything but putting in the scatterings. The poor clover field thickened

up a lot before we got it cut, though a lot of it was weeds. Probably they will be better off in the silo than anywhere else. They were good and green and we used some molasses this year, about forty pounds to the load. It was damp enough to pack well and the silo held the most of it ever has, fifty-six loads, eight more than last year.

There were only three of us filling so it had lots of time to settle as well. This year there was a little leakage at the bottom, perhaps a good sign as it has been a little too dry some years. After filling we covered the top with paper bags that lime comes in and put some sawdust on top. We were pleasantly surprised at how easy it was to get the molasses in. We had a steel drum, a forty-five gallon one, set on the barn drive just high enough to run into the cutter through a pipe from the bottom. We put enough molasses in it for two loads and filled the drum with water through a hose. That was about all there was to it except to keep it stirred up at first. Once I let too much molasses run when no grass was going through and plugged the pipe but that was a small matter. Incidentally, we used beet molasses as it was a little cheaper. Some say it runs better than the cane.

For several reasons we have decided to save some timothy for seed this year. One is that we seem to have plenty of hay to spare a little. Another is the price we have paid for the seed lately. Another is that we have a small field of fall rye which we hope to thresh in some manner before the other grain is ripe. In fact we hope to have some of it back in the ground again before the other threshing is done. Small threshing jobs are expensive so some timothy could be threshed for the same money. Perhaps we can get small plots like that ripe enough to use a combine. That is what we are hoping.

When the Quebec Jersey breeders held their picnic at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Lennoxville recently, they were shown the commencement of a new pasture experiment. This was ladino clover sowed in a series of plots

with a different grass with it on each one. The idea is that different grasses are ready for grazing at different times. With such plots it is hoped that each one can be grazed at the proper stage. In this case cattle went on all plots at the same time. However the meadow fescue was too far advanced to eat with other grass available. Orchard grass was a little later with brome and timothy following in that order. Now it will be tried on larger plots so that the cattle can be confined to each in turn. As the earliest is grazed off, the next will be ready and so forth. It remains to be seen whether the first plots will come on again for another cycle after the last is done. At least this method should suit ladino as it favors a heavy grazing and then a rest period before being grazed again. This would also be in line with a New Jersey finding. Cattle on ladino and bluegrass pasture there were troubled with bloat in the fall after the rains spurted up the ladino. This was believed to be because the bluegrass dried out in the summer and made no growth for the fall. Cattle on ladino need coarse material of some sort with it to prevent bloat. Now they advise sowing brome or orchard grass with the ladino because they will make some fall growth.

## Farmer-Veterans

Nearly 50,000 veterans and their families have been settled on farms, small holdings, or commercial fishing establishments since the war with the assistance of the Veterans' Land Act. About half this number are engaged in full-time farming and must rely on the soil for their full income.

These properties involve a public investment exceeding a quarter of a billion dollars, most of which must be returned to the Public Treasury at three and one-half per cent interest. Administering this multimillion dollar organization is a Head Office directed by T. J. Rutherford, (a former successful farmer), eight district offices, 39 regional offices, and 320 field territories, each in charge of a Settlement Officer.

To accomplish this settlement program in five years has entailed a



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tremendous amount of work-applications to process; properties to appraise and purchase; stock and equipment to buy, and the routine administration that continues after the veteran has been settled. As a result, there has been little time for extension work.

To buy a piece of land and leave the veteran to his own devices was never the intention of the VLA Administration. Both the Act and the Contract, signed by both parties, place on the Administration the responsibility to assist the veterans to succeed in their establishment through information and instruction. Although the stream of applicants continues strong, a policy to carry out this responsibility is already in effect. As settlement decreases and

more time becomes available, farm development work will be intensified.

## Federation Sponsors Nuffield Scholarships

Details of a plan whereby selected Canadian farmers will be given the privilege of qualifying for scholarships offered by the Nuffield Foundation of England, under which two Canadian farmers each year will be given six months' study period on British farms, are now announced.

The Canadian plan will be carried out under the direction of the Canadian committee of the Nuffield Foundation, of which George V. Ferguson, editor of the Montreal Star, is chairman.

Candidates for the plan will make application through provincial federations of agriculture, and the applications each year will be finally considered by the Canadian committee for the foundation, working jointly with a committee of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, of which H. H. Hannam, president, is chairman, and of which the other members are Dean R. D. Sinclair, head of the faculty of agriculture at Alberta University, I. B. Whale, associate editor of the Farmers' Advocate, London, Ont., and Dr. Henri Bois, general manager of the Co-operative Fédérée de Québec. Applications for the scholarships must first be approved by provincial federations or corresponding member bodies of the Federation, and the final selection will be made by the Canadian committee. Only one scholarship will be granted each year in Western Canada and one in Eastern Canada.

## Working with Youth

The Canadian Council on Boys' and Girls' Club Work is the only national organization of all those which exist to serve young people, which is entirely concerned with farm youth. It was formed in 1931 with just one purpose in view — to develop and maintain a national agricultural club policy for Canadian boys and girls.

The idea really started with the two railways. For some years both the C.P.R. and the C.N.R. had organized

trips to the Royal Winter Fair as prizes for teams from junior livestock clubs; both railways co-operated with Departments of Agriculture in promoting junior farm club work. By 1930 it became evident that these trips (which included judging competitions between teams from the various provinces) were splendid ways of enabling the boys and girls to learn something of the work going on in other provinces, and of giving all of them new ideas for projects.

In November, 1930, the late Hon. Robert Weir, Federal Minister of Agriculture, called a meeting of delegates from all over Canada, and the groundwork for the Canadian Council was laid. It was formally organized in 1933, and the Council was incorporated as a non-profit organization without share capital. The first and only secretary the Council has had is A. E. McLaurin. J. D. Moore was appointed Public Relations Officer in 1948.

The Council maintains a national policy for farm boys' and girls' club work, and acts as go-between for the clubs and the government departments and the various business firms who are eager to support it. Both co-operate in conducting the programme of the Council; neither could do it properly alone. The Council programme, which culminates in National Club Week, has developed wide public interest in young farmers and their affairs.

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## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes  
and to matters of interest to them*

### OUR WEEK

To every member of the Quebec Women's Institutes, that is what those few last days in June mean — our week, the Convention. So once again, for the 36th time, the comfortable rooms and beautiful surroundings of Macdonald College were opened for the 200 members and guests who attended this annual event, June 27-29.

Welcomed by Dr. W. H. Brittain, Dean of the College, at the opening session, Tuesday evening, he spoke of the close ties between the College and the Q.W.I. ever since the formation of the movement in the province, and the pleasure always felt in greeting a group that is doing so much for the rural districts of Quebec. This was suitably acknowledged by Mrs. G. D. Harvey, 2nd Vice-President, Stanbridge East. Greetings were also brought by Mme P. C. LeBeau, Secretary Home Economics & Handicraft Division, Department of Agriculture, Quebec; Mme J. B. Cadrin, St. Anselme, President Dorchester Federation, Les Cercles des Fermieres; Mrs. Wentworth L. Fay, Malone, N.Y., Hon. President State Federation of Home Bureaus; Miss Esther M. Kerry, President Montreal Council of Women, Miss Alice Lighthall, President Quebec Branch Canadian Handicraft Guild; Mrs. W. F. Oliver, President Macdonald Women's Union; and Miss M. Arnold, a member of an English W.I. now visiting in this country. Mrs. E. E. Morton, Vegreville, Alta., President F.W.I.C., was also a welcome guest at the convention, bringing greetings from the National organization and later giving an inspiring talk on W.I. objectives. Majestic organ music, feelingly rendered by Mrs. E. C. Irvine, Ste. Annes, and two beautiful vocal solos by Mrs. H. R. Murray, Macdonald College, who kindly responded to an encore, Mrs. Leslie Kerr, Vaudreuil, accompanist, made a delightful addition to the evening's programme.



A glimpse of the beautiful campus at the College. No wonder it is enjoyed by the delegates. The syringa hedge in full bloom with the old willow tree in the background.



Miss Constance Hayward, Department of Citizenship and Immigration, Ottawa. Miss Hayward was the speaker at the opening session of the Q.W.I. Convention, taking as her topic the theme for that gathering, "Good Neighbours — Good Citizens."

#### Speakers

"I feel I do not have to urge you as much as I might other groups for I already know how you have welcomed immigrant farmers into your midst," said Miss Constance Hayward of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, Ottawa, speaking at the opening session of the convention. Stressing the theme for this gathering, "Good Neighbours — Good Citizens", she commended the W.I. for the progress they had already made in helping newcomers and spoke of the importance of accepting immigrants as Canadian citizens without excluding them from joining their own ethnic group in Canada. Miss Hayward felt we should improve our own knowledge of the framework upon which our Canadian democracy is based and concluded by saying, "we should all have an understanding and a recognition of the balance between the rights of the individual and the demands of society." Other prominent speakers were present at the following sessions to discuss the varied objectives of the Q.W.I. carried on for this task of creating good citizens. Prof. H. A. Steppeler, Agronomy Department, Macdonald College, pointed out the serious need for Soil Conservation and stated Canada seemed to be lagging behind a bit in this work. He urged every organization to take a part in this matter of vital



concern to every one. "Soil Conservation is not just a problem for men", he concluded, "but one demanding the attention of every man, woman and child." Dr. Baruch Silverman, Director Mental Hygiene Institute, Montreal, discussed "Child Training and Adult Adjustment". "Every child should be given a mental examination when he first enters school", stated Dr. Silverman, and went on to stress the importance of the part played by parent and teacher in the child's life. He urged a more adequate system of teacher selection and training. Parents also should realize the importance of a happy home life in order to pass on to their children a confident basis for behaviour. "Education for Leadership" was the title of a talk by Mr. M. J. Dunsmore, Principal Granby High School and President of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers. "Rather than the three R's the three C's, character, citizenship and culture, were being emphasized in present day education", he stated and went on to say, "even if we are successful in educating leaders our efforts will be to no avail if we disregard our opportunity to develop such feelings as tolerance, sympathy, loving kindness, sportmanship and fair play." On the closing day Mrs. Kate Aitken told of "This World of Women", giving a vivid description of her experiences in several countries of Europe on a recent trip abroad. Films were used throughout the sessions to emphasise the points raised by the speakers.

#### Reports

Mrs. J. D. Lang reporting on Agriculture urged the members to continue their study of soil conservation. She mentioned a bursary of \$100 had been given by the Rawdon W.I. to a local boy to enable him to take the First Year in the Diploma Course in Agriculture at Macdonald



A few of the delegates from Argenteuil County waiting on the front steps for the bus.

College. In Education, Mrs. A. Coates stated there had also been an increasing number of scholarships in her department and some schools have been equipped with radios. "Hot lunches in schools continue to be a major activity of local branches", said Mrs. Ellard, Convenor of Welfare & Health. Old cotton sent by members to the Canadian Cancer Society had been most gratefully received and she asked this project be continued. Miss M. S. Taylor of this Society attended one of the sessions to bring in person their thanks for this service. Mrs. E. S. Reed, Citizenship, noted many branches had been active in welcoming new Canadians to their community and Denmark and Newfoundland had been widely studied. Mrs. T. H. Kirby mentioned the growing number of handicraft displays in her report on Home Economics and demonstrations on a variety of topics connected with her department had been featured. The expanding use of radio for W.I.



Pontiac and Gatineau delegates waiting for the bus home.

publicity was reported by Mrs. J. D. Smythe, Publicity, and a greater use of local newspaper for this purpose.

The reports given by office staff showed a healthy expansion in the projects undertaken this past year. The objective of \$1,500, raised by voluntary subscription to found a scholarship in the Home Economics course at Macdonald College in memory of Mrs. Alfred Watt has been nearly achieved and the other provincial projects, Save the Children and Personal Parcels have been well supported. In the latter it was reported 83 branches have sent approximately 800 food parcels at a total value of \$6,000, in addition to many boxes of used clothing. School Fairs, sponsored by local branches, are growing in size and number. Garden seeds, furnished by the Provincial Department of Agriculture, are distributed at no cost to the members, from the Q.W.I. office and this year 900 collections of 10 packets each were sent out to branches undertaking this project.

Instruction in Handicrafts is another service offered by the Q.W.I. to its members and 5,300 miles have been covered by the Handicraft Technician, Miss E. M. Birch, in her visits to the banches to hold classes in weaving,



Delegates from Junior Branches at the Convention — the best attendance yet.



rug-making, leather, felt and shellwork. The annual Handicraft Exhibit, held in conjunction with the convention, was the best yet and reflected this growing interest. This was opened by Mme LeBeau who expressed her pleasure at the progress achieved and urged the members to stress for two ideals — quality and perfection. A centre of attraction in this display was the collection of beautiful rugs, kindly loaned by L'Ecole des Arts Domestiques, Quebec, through the courtesy of Mme LeBeau, which should serve as an inspiration to Q.W.I. members planning to compete in the Tweedsmuir Competitions.

Three senior branches and one junior were organized this year but this was offset by the disbanding of a similar number, which leaves the total still at the figure of 100 senior and 3 junior branches. There has been a slight increase in membership, however, which now totals 2,925.

#### Resolutions

Resolutions passed at the closing session included three on which joint action is being taken with the Montreal Council of Women, with whom the Q.W.I. is federated. These were: Reforms in the Protestant Women's Jail, Montreal; Reciprocal Maintenance Orders; and Raising Exemption for Succession Duties. Compulsory pasteurization of milk for sale in Quebec was also urged and facilities in rural areas for proper instruction of mentally retarded children. Resolutions of thanks were passed to the staff of Macdonald College for their hospitality, to the Department of Agriculture for its support and co-operation, and to the press and radio for their courtesy in publicizing W.I. activities.

#### Jottings

A life-membership in the Q.W.I. was presented the retiring treasurer, Mrs. G. D. Harvey, at the opening of the convention. This ceremony was performed by the President, Mrs. R. Thomson, who paid eloquent tribute to the faithful and efficient service given by Mrs. Harvey in the heavy duties connected with that position and expressed her pleasure that her helpful counsel would still be available as she was continuing on the Executive as 2nd

Vice-President. Mrs. H. G. Taylor, Q.W.I. Secretary, was presented with a similar award.

The F.W.I.C. has accepted the invitation of Quebec to hold their convention at Macdonald College in 1951. A permanent committee was set up to arrange for this event, which will be held the week preceding the Q.W.I. Convention, in June of next year.

At the convention last year a resolution was passed urging all branches to support the Red Cross by helping them secure donors and volunteer workers for their mobile Blood Transfusion Clinics. Mrs. Gordon Mitchell, Montreal, who is connected with this work, visited the convention this year, enlarging on the service and thanking those branches who had given this assistance. The film "The Miracle Fluid" was shown, adding emphasis to her talk. This can be loaned to any branch that wishes to arouse public interest when arranging for a visit from the travelling Blood Transfusion Unit. Write to Canadian Red Cross Society, Blood Donor Clinic, 1626 St. Catherine St. W., for the film and information on these clinics.

A tour of the city of Montreal, arranged for the last afternoon of the Convention, brought to a close the week's events.

Old acquaintances renewed, new friendships formed, and ideas exchanged, are always a pleasant feature of these conventions, and the well-filled notebooks taken away by every delegate, would indicate members at home will share in the benefits derived from this annual gathering of the Q.W.I.



Off to the city. Buses leaving the College for the tour of Montreal.

The A.C.W.W. has at the present time 103 constituent societies in 20 countries, with an approximate membership of 6 million. Queensland Country Women's Association is establishing a record with the formation of one new branch every week during the last year. It now has 438 senior branches and 78 junior. The membership was not given in the news item but the total for the whole of Australia is 90,000. According to this same item Canada has a total membership of 145,000.



## The Treasurer's Report

The delegates have learned that when their treasurer gives her report at the Convention there is to going to be more than a mere reading of "facts and figures", important as they are. Nor were they disappointed again this year, for here is what they heard when Mrs. Harvey presented her last report as Q.W.I. Treasurer.

Our Convention time is always cheery  
Until I proceed to make it dreary;  
So, to liven up my dull report,  
To a few lines of verse, I now resort.  
It isn't good, but it might be worse  
Without the addition of this little verse.  
Now, on the Road of Life, one milestone more,  
In the Book of Life, one leaf turned o'er.  
Of what shall I write, and what shall I say?  
I deal in dollars and cents each day.  
I figure and figure, that's all I do,  
And what is in that to interest you?  
Of course, you will want our problems to know,  
And what our Q.W.I. is doing to show  
It's willingness to share the load  
Of those who need us along Life's road.  
So, as you hear the facts and figures  
This report reveals to you,  
You can take notes for your members  
Of transactions I've put through,  
As herewith, I submit a statement  
Of the funds, placed in my care —  
All receipts and all disbursements,  
You will find recorded there.

... here came the report, and then ...

Now, as you study this long report,  
Which tells the story of last year's work,  
Haven't we proven to the world that a helping hand  
Can, and will be, the aim of our Institute grand?  
You have not neglected, or failed to support

The European Children, and we hope soon to report  
We can do even more for those who need care,  
And give more bursaries to our sons and daughters fair.  
The Manitoba Flood Fund is a project of *this* year,  
And you fill many a W.I. member's heart with happiness and cheer;

To rebuild their homes, and be happy once more,  
They need our donations — such sorrows they bore!  
You sew for the Red Cross, and many of you knit,  
Each one seems to be loyally doing her bit.  
As your Provincial Treasurer, I've bid you before a  
fond Adieu,

This year, I repeat the statement, and I mean it, too.  
To the Officers and Members, who have been most kind,  
A finer group of people, it would, indeed, be hard to find.

I thank them, every one, from the bottom of my heart,  
For five busy years, you have most nobly done your part.

Your countless cheery and 'quy letters, that kept coming to my door,

Will very soon stop coming, and I'll miss the messages they bore.

Now, I'll say a simple "thank you" which comes straight from my heart,

Though no longer your Treasurer, we'll still not be apart.

—ANNE MACD. HARVEY.

Now for a few highlights from that report. The Watt Scholarship Fund stands at \$1,150.91 and county presidents were asked to check with their branches to see if all contributions had been sent. \$2,241.82 was the total in for the Q.W.I. Service Fund and \$517.48 had been received for Save the Children. Total receipts in general funds showed \$2,711.62, with disbursements at \$2,481.36.

## Office News

By the time this issue of the Journal reaches you we hope your secretary will have received the new pamphlet list. As soon as Miss Campbell arrived, work was resumed on the pamphlet library and at time of writing the lists are well on the way to completion. In order to facilitate the selection of subject material we are only putting down the main headings and will fill your orders from that. It is quite a task to sit down with a list of nearly 2,000 titles and look through it for what you want. We hope you will find this simplifies your job and we sincerely hope it will result in more use being made of material for your programmes.

Some authoritative information on Soil Conservation has been added to this library through the kindness of

Prof. H. A. Steppler, of the Agronomy Department, Macdonald College. He brought home the seriousness of this problem at a talk given at the convention, and we have been asked by the F.W.I.C., as well as our own provincial organization, to make a study of this important phase of Agriculture. A copy of Prof. Steppler's talk is also on file, which may be sent on loan if desired.

Also by the time this Journal reaches you, our president, Mrs. R. Thomson, will be in Denmark where she is attending the 6th Triennial Conference of the A.C.W.W. as our representative. She sailed Aug 18, from Montreal on the Empress of France in company with the other members of the Canadian delegation.



## The Month With The W.I.

**Argenteuil:** Arundel played host to the county convention and Mrs. G. E. LeBaron, Q.W.I. 1st Vice-President, was the guest speaker. 150 members were in attendance to enjoy the hospitality of this branch. Brownsburg donated \$10 to flood victims and held a farewell party for a member who was going away. Frontier branch heard an address on Modern Medicine, by Dr. Irwin Smith. A donation was made to the Manitoba W.I. Flood Fund and a sum of money voted for prizes in the Handicrafts section of Lachute Fair. Lachute exchanged perennials, and enjoyed a talk on Plant Psychology, while Morin Heights heard an address by Edwin Holgate, R.C.A. This branch reports a good attendance at the Blood Clinic. Pioneer celebrated Grandmothers' Day, with a display of heirlooms. Upper-Lachute and East End sent a member to the Short Course and donated \$5 for prizes at the fair. Lakefield held a party for a member leaving for England and Jerusalem-Bethany honoured their "Grandmother members" at the meeting, each lady being presented with a cup and saucer as a souvenir of the occasion.

**Beauharnois:** The Nitro No. 2 branch report holding two meetings per month, with great enthusiasm being shown. At the first meeting a demonstration on crochet work was given and at the second, one of the teachers from the school gave a talk on Home and School Associations.

**Bonaventure:** Black Cape featured Grandmothers' Day and several members wore costumes of long ago. A paper was read, "Grandmothers, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow". Marcil had two welcome visitors, Mrs. Frazer from Glasgow, Scotland, and Mrs. Cameron Dow, O.B.E. Mrs. G. D. Harvey, Q.W.I. 2nd Vice-President, was guest of honour at the monthly meeting in New Carlisle. At Port Daniel a fine report was given by a member who had attended the short Course and a donation of \$5 was made to the Port Daniel Amusement Club. Shigawake entertained the 28th Annual County Convention and over 70 delegates were present. Mrs. A. J. Eden was a visitor from Gaspé and Mrs. G. D. Harvey represented the Q.W.I. Executive.

**Chat.-Huntingdon:** Aubrey-Riverfield donated to the Flood and Fire Funds as well as contributing \$50 to the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Two euchre parties were held which netted \$40 for the treasury. Dundee heard a report on the county meeting and two guest speakers, both R.N.'s spoke on the value of the new T.B. vaccine and blood transfusions. Franklin Centre reports that a splendid assortment of garments made by the members won prizes at the W.I. booth at the fair. Hemmingford also made articles to sell at the fair and for their meeting Mrs. John Brown gave a fascinating demonstration of spinning on an old spinning-wheel. The Howick roll call was a donation for the W.I. booth at the fair and a letter was read on

"The Home-life, Education and Training of a Danish Woman".

**Compton:** Bury decided to sponsor a Dental Clinic and voted \$25 for expenses. Mr. McDougall gave a talk on Agriculture, with films. It was decided the branch would pay the expenses of a Junior W.I. delegate to the Annual Convention. Brookbury presented a Life Membership and bought a silver spoon for a new baby. Cookshire voted \$50 for the Dental Clinic and held a rummage sale to raise funds. Canterbury heard a paper on "The Atlantic Pact", and welcomed two new members. East Clifton made a donation to the Dental Clinic and Mr. Palmer spoke on, "Flowers and Perennial Borders". Scotstown held a "Geranium contest", with prizes and a member in hospital was visited and presented with a birthday cake. Sawyer-ville members enjoyed a visit to the Wallace Bros. factory in Cookshire.

**Gaspé:** Wakeham reports inviting members from other branches to meet Mrs. G. D. Harvey and to hear her interesting address at the June meeting. The report of the County Annual was given. Proceeds from a card party netted \$28 for the funds.

**Gatineau:** All branches appointed delegates for the Convention at Macdonald and some entered exhibits in the Handicrafts display. Aylmer East heard a speaker on the Blue Cross and completed plans for the annual school picnic. A lady told of her recent experiences in Winnipeg, and \$25 was voted for the Manitoba W.I. Flood Fund. Eardley contributed \$10 to the same fund and heard a paper "Be on the safe side when Polio strikes", read by Mrs. H. Poole. Rupert sponsored the usual picnic for the three district schools. At the meeting the rollcall was "A story from Grandmother's time". Wakefield pledged full support to a cottage hospital soon to be instituted in a house purchased by a local doctor. "Pioneer Home Remedies for the Ailing", as discussed by three members in old-time costumes, proved an enjoyable feature of the meeting. Wright realized \$18 on a rummage sale, to be shared between junior Red Cross and Flood Relief. (Wakefield and Rupert each contributed \$10 to the Flood Relief.)

**Jacques-Cartier:** Ste. Anne's branch report a large attendance at the meeting, with the members working on their quilt. Mrs. J. Macgregor, a guest from Glasgow, Scotland, was warmly welcomed. A talk on "House Plants", was given by Mr. D. Pettit, of the Horticultural Dept., Macdonald College, who also answered the many questions asked by the members. Cuttings were exchanged and plans made for a stork shower for a member.

**Mississquoi:** Dunham sponsored a tag day for the local hospital and voted \$10 for prizes in local school. A paper, "The Conquest of Silicosis", was given. Cowansville made plans for their School Fair and heard a talk on Birds. Fordyce heard a report of the Short Course and



voted \$25 to the Flood Relief. Two members gave the monthly broadcast, "Something of the Life and Customs of Danish people." Stanbridge East voted \$10 each to the Cancer Fund and Flood Relief, and decided to combine a Hobby Show with the School Fair in September. St. Armand welcomed four new members and the rollcall was "A Tale of Pioneer Days".

**Pontiac:** Bristol Busy Bees sent a donation to Flood Relief and their rollcall was, "My Favorite Strawberry recipe". Beechgrove held a cookie contest and heard a paper, "How to Stay Alive on the Farm." Fort Coulonge held a demonstration at the close of the meeting. Each member trimmed a hat with useful kitchen articles and after the hilarious parade these were auctioned to benefit the branch funds. Quyon voted \$10 for Flood Relief and \$100 to be taken in shares for the new community centre.

**Quebec:** Valcartier reported a large meeting and again Grandmothers were honoured guests. Preparations were made to hold a dance and money was given for prizes in the local schools. \$50 was voted for Flood Relief, \$25 to the Cancer Fund and \$10 to the Red Cross.

**Richmond:** Cleveland reports donating \$5 each to Rimouski and Flood Relief. In Gore two quilts were quilted and Denison's Mills sent three sunshine baskets to the sick. Melbourne Ridge had a contest conducted by the Publicity Convenor and a rug was sent to the Handicraft Exhibit. Richmond Hill enjoyed a demonstration on rug-hooking and sent two sunshine boxes, while Shipton had a food sale to raise funds. Spooner Pond had a demonstration by the Singer Sewing Machine Co., and Windsor Mills catered for a basketball banquet. This effort netted \$73.80 for the treasury.

**Rouville:** Abbotsford had a large attendance at the monthly meeting when a talk was given by the Rev. J. H. M. Brett. Miss T. Arnold of Tuyford, Winchester, England, who is spending the summer in Abbotsford, brought greetings from her branch of the W.I. and grateful thanks for Canadian parcels.

**Shefford:** Granby Hill members made six scrap books for sick children and two boxes of fruit were sent to members who were ill. Six quilts are being made for flood victims in Manitoba. It was decided to hold the usual picnic. South Roxton had Grandmothers' Day and old tales were told and much enjoyed, as was a display of heirlooms on view for the occasion. Warden had a pie making contest with prizes given by the Home Economics Convenor. The pies were later auctioned to aid the funds. \$10 was donated to Flood Relief.

**Sherbrooke:** All branches in this county report money donated to the Manitoba W.I. Flood Fund. Ascot branch held an evening meeting and after the business session the husbands and families of the members enjoyed a pleasant

social evening. \$5 each, was voted Rimouski and Cabano. Brompton Road welcomed two new members and silver spoons were bought for two new babies. A card party was held to aid the Hospital Fund and a yeast-roll contest was a feature of the meeting. Lennoxville sent nine garments to Save the Children and voted \$10 to the local Girl Guide Camp. A wonderful display of antiques was on view; jewelery, vases, dolls, etc., some articles being over 100 years old; as well as wedding dresses of three generations. Milby had Grandmothers' Day when pictures were taken. (May we have them for the Journal please?) There was a corsage for each grandmother, and a young bride was also presented with a gift.

**Stanstead:** Ayer's Cliff held a food sale and sent their monthly parcel overseas. Beebe observed their annual Grandmothers' Day. Mothers' Day flowers had been sold and the proceeds amounting to \$38, were used for the following donations: Cancer Society \$25, Sherbrooke Hospital \$10, St. Vincent de Paul Hospital \$5. A similar amount was also given the Catholic School to aid in purchasing prizes. Minton voted donations of money to Flood Relief and Rimouski and Cabano fire victims. "One of Grandmother's Treasures" was the subject of the roll call and brought forth many treasures indeed. "Stories of Pioneer Days" formed the programme, which with the roll call, made it one of their most interesting meetings. Stanstead North was another branch honouring the Grandmothers' when 14 were guests at their meeting. 225 lbs. of used clothing were sent to Cabano, \$10 to Rimouski fire fund and \$25 to the Manitoba W.I. Flood Fund. Cakes were presented to the president and another member who were celebrating their birthdays. Tomifobia, another Grandmothers' Day! Four honoured guests were present, one of them a great grandmother. The current donations are noted here also: two quilts tied (material provided by the Red Cross) and \$5 all for the Manitoba W.I. Flood Relief, a box of clothing sent to Rimouski, and \$10 to the Cancer Society. A new member was welcomed. Way's Mills reports similar work: \$10 to Manitoba W.I. Flood Fund, \$5 each to Rimouski and Cabano. Assistance was given with a community supper, the funds to be used for flood relief, and a rummage sale netted \$33.

**Vaudreuil:** Cavagnal branch welcomed two new members and reported netting \$33.50 at a Rummage Sale. Two food parcels were sent overseas and \$10 each was voted for Rimouski and Flood Relief Funds. 45 dozen tomato plants were distributed to school children. Vaudreuil-Dorion featured Agriculture with papers on "Flowers for Farm Women" and "African Violets". \$25 was donated to the Joint Hospital Fund and two parcels were sent overseas.





## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### Mac Entertains

The College was host on August 2nd to some 400 French-speaking farmers, members of the Agricultural Societies of Hochelaga, Jacques Cartier and Laval Counties, who had planned this trip for some time. Estimates as to the number of guests had run to as high as one thousand, but heavy rain all day reduced the numbers considerably. However, those that braved the weather all reported a most interesting time, and expressed the hope that this might be made an annual feature.

The carefully-laid plans of the Field Day Committee had to undergo sudden revision, since it was impossible to do anything out of doors. It had been planned to take our visitors over the farm in four groups and to spend the day doing it. But with the smaller numbers, only two groups were formed. They visited the seed farm, and the pasture, corn, and cereal plots of the Agronomy Department and saw what they could without getting out of their cars. A loud-speaker truck, and our own portable loud-speaker equipment, both operated from under cover, made it possible to explain what was going on in the experimental plots, and although it was not so satisfactory as if the visitors could have walked around and looked at things more closely, the arrangement worked very well. This was the morning programme.

About half the group bought their lunch in the Dining Room: the rest, who had brought their own, had a picnic lunch in the Girls' Gymnasium. After lunch they gathered in the Assembly Hall and had a get-together of their own, and discussed farm operations and problems to their hearts' content. Following this, the women in the party were taken on a tour of the Household Science Laboratories and heard a talk by Miss Cantin of the Provincial Home Economic Service, then went down to Glenaladale for tea and a talk on growing flowers given by M. Gernay of the Quebec Department.

While this was going on the men went over to the Horticulture Department, where an exhibit on vegetable types, and on vegetable diseases, had been prepared by the departments of Horticulture and Plant Pathology. It had been planned that the whole group would visit the Horticulture plots and the demonstration farm garden, but the mud put an end to that. They also watched a demonstration of farm machinery put on by a commercial firm.



Prof. Stepler of the Agronomy Department talks pastures with a group of American farmers who visited the College last month.

This is the first time that an organized Farm Day has been set up for our French neighbours, but both they and we hope it will not be the last. It should be possible, another year, for a similar visit to be arranged to co-incide with our regular Farm Day in June; perhaps not on the same day, but within a day or two, when all the exhibits are in place and the College is holding open house.

Arrangements for the day were in charge of Mr. J. A. Lafortune, of the Extension Division at Quebec. Prof. Lods extended an official welcome on behalf of the College.

### Mac Grads Win A.I.C. Awards

D. K. Fairbarns, a 1949 graduate of Macdonald College, Quebec, has been awarded an Agricultural Institute of Canada scholarship in the field of agricultural economics. He will pursue his work at Oxford University. Mr. Fairbarns is employed by the Department of Labour, Economics & Research Branch, and has had experience in lecture work while taking some post-graduate work at McGill University. He is a veteran of the Royal Canadian Navy, married and resides at 318 Bronson Avenue, Ottawa.

H. B. Heeney, a 1949 graduate and an employee of the Experimental Farms Service at Ottawa, has been awarded a scholarship for advanced work in the field of plant physiology. He will conduct his work at Michigan State College. A Veteran of the Royal Canadian Air Force, he is married and resides at 240 Powell Avenue, Ottawa.



# Farm Surpluses Called Artificial

"Producers in the Maritime Provinces never had to worry about surpluses of potatoes and apples when they were able to do business with world countries on a relatively, and reasonable, free-trade basis, and without the impediment of artificial currency manipulation." F. W. Walsh, Nova Scotia's Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Marketing, told the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society at Charlottetown.

"And," continued Mr. Walsh, "Maritime producers would not have to worry about surpluses of these products today, were they able to trade on the same basis with world countries whose food stocks are exhausted, or in short supply, but who, because of man-made regulations, are unable to exchange the funds of their countries for the food stuffs which their people need and desire."

Notwithstanding the artificial restrictions which have been placed upon the free trade of agricultural products, Mr. Walsh pointed out that a great deal of progress had been made by Maritime producers in recent years, both in the fields of production and marketing.

One reason why Maritime producers do not have embarrassing surpluses of many products — hogs, dressed poultry, eggs and strawberries, to mention a few — Mr. Walsh pointed out, is because they have so organized the marketing of these products that local domestic markets are supplied regularly, with graded and inspected products in a volume which they are able to absorb quite readily. Any seasonal surplus is moved either to cold storage, or to a market outlet, either in Canada, or in a country in which Canada can trade, and in which the "dollar" is the medium of exchange.

What has been achieved in Maritime production and marketing fields, Mr. Walsh stated, has been accomplished, largely, by the producers themselves. For, working and co-operating with the Departments of Agriculture, these producers have endorsed and supported a policy calling for: (a) organization of producers; (b) efficient grading and inspection services; and (c) centralized marketing.

"This much," said Mr. Walsh, "the producers, themselves, have been able to do. But, beyond this point, it is necessary for government policies to be so designed that the markets of the world will be open to all producers who: (a) wish to trade with these countries; and (b) who are willing to accept the currency of such countries in payment for the produce exported to them."

When this becomes a reality, Mr. Walsh believed, there should not be embarrassing surpluses of agricultural production in any country for the demand for food, in food deficient areas of the world, is more than enough to absorb existing and potential surpluses.

"The distribution of food supply is a matter of considerable moment and," continued Mr. Walsh. "I believe

surplus food stocks from countries of origin will, one day, be moved to countries in short supply. Until this is accomplished, there never will be peace in the world for hungry, under-nourished, and under-privileged people are always the first to take up the cudgels of war against their neighbours whose granaries are full."

## Favourite Forum Topics

What do farmers like in forum broadcasts? Naturally, each person has his own pet topics; but a survey of forum reactions to last season's broadcasts brought out some interesting points.

The favourite broadcast of the season was "All Work — " which dealt with rural recreation. Second in favour was "Can We Farm Co-operatively" and third "Labor and Farmer — Friend or Foe?" Next in preference were "Law of Supply and Demand," "Education Divided by Ten" and "Are We Good Farmers?" This varied fare shows the wide range of interest in the forums.

But the favourite broadcasts didn't always stimulate the best discussions in local forums. The subjects rated best in discussion were parity and floor prices, labor-farmer relations, tariffs, farming efficiency, the law of supply and demand and co-operative farming. The poorest discussion arose out of "Organization in a Community" and "Are Canadians Well Fed?"

When the forums were asked what subjects they would like to discuss next season their top vote went to "Finding New Markets for Farm Products." Next in line were "Can We Do Without the Middleman?", "A Retirement Pension For Everybody," "Why Are Feed Costs So High?" and "Can We Farm on Shorter Hours?"



The Robert Summerby Memorial Greenhouse was formally opened on June 24th. In our picture Dean Brittain, Vice-Principal, pays tribute to his classmate, the late R. S. Summerby, Head of the Agronomy Department for twenty-seven years.



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